

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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1. In a responder device having a transceiver for wireless communication, a method for managing responses to signals received from initiator devices, said method comprising the steps of:
 - a) automatically setting said responder device to discoverable mode when said responder device enters awake mode, wherein said responder device in said discoverable mode scans for wireless signals broadcast by initiator devices; and
 - b) automatically setting said responder device to non-discoverable mode when said responder device enters standby mode, wherein said responder device in said non-discoverable mode does not scan for wireless signals broadcast by initiator devices.
 2. The method as recited in Claim 1 further comprising the steps of:
 - c) receiving at said responder device a first wireless signal broadcast by an initiator device;
 - d) sending a second wireless signal in response to said first wireless signal when said responder device is in said discoverable mode, wherein said second wireless signal is to be received by said initiator device; and
 - e) disregarding said first wireless signal when said responder device is in said non-discoverable mode.

3. The method as recited in Claim 2 further comprising the step of:
f) receiving a third wireless signal from said initiator device, wherein said third wireless signal is a directed signal sent to said responder device in response to said second wireless signal.

4. The method as recited in Claim 3 wherein said responder device is in a connectable mode at all times, wherein said responder device in said connectable mode automatically responds to directed signals.

5. The method as recited in Claim 2 wherein said initiator device and said responder device are Bluetooth-enabled devices.

6. The method as recited in Claim 5 wherein said first wireless signal is an inquiry message requesting an address for said responder device.

7. The method as recited in Claim 6 wherein said second wireless signal comprises said address for said responder device.

8. The method as recited in Claim 7 wherein said third wireless signal is a page message directed to said address and comprising a request for a name of said responder device.

9. The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said responder device is a portable computer system.

B) 10. In a responder device having a transceiver for wireless communication, a method for managing responses to signals received from initiator devices, said method comprising the steps of:

a) receiving at said responder device a first wireless signal broadcast by an initiator device, wherein said first wireless signal is to be received by responder devices within range of said initiator device;

10 b) automatically entering a discoverable mode when said responder device enters awake mode, wherein said responder device in said discoverable mode sends a second wireless signal in response to said first wireless signal, wherein said second wireless signal is to be received by said initiator device; and

15 c) automatically entering a non-discoverable mode when said responder device enters standby mode, wherein said responder device in said non-discoverable mode does not send a response to said first wireless signal.

11. The method as recited in Claim 10 further comprising the step of:

20 d) receiving a third wireless signal from said initiator device, wherein said third wireless signal is a directed signal sent to said responder device in response to said second wireless signal.

12. The method as recited in Claim 11 wherein said responder device is in a connectable mode at all times, wherein said responder device in said connectable mode automatically responds to directed signals.

13. The method as recited in Claim 11 wherein said initiator device and said responder device are Bluetooth-enabled devices.

14. The method as recited in Claim 13 wherein said first wireless signal is an inquiry message requesting an address for said responder device.

15. The method as recited in Claim 13 wherein said second wireless signal comprises said address for said responder device.

16. The method as recited in Claim 15 wherein said third wireless signal is a page message directed to said address and comprising a request for a name of said responder device.

17. The method as recited in Claim 10 wherein said responder device is a portable computer system.

18. A responder device comprising:
a bus;

a wireless transceiver unit coupled to said bus and for communicating with initiator devices; and

a processor coupled to said bus, said processor for performing a method for managing responses to signals received from said initiator devices, said method comprising the steps of:

a) automatically setting said responder device to discoverable mode when said responder device enters awake mode, wherein said responder device in said discoverable mode scans for wireless signals broadcast by said initiator devices; and

b) automatically setting said responder device to non-discoverable mode when said responder device enters standby mode, wherein said responder device in said non-discoverable mode does not scan for wireless signals broadcast by said initiator devices.

19. The responder device of Claim 18 wherein said method further comprises the steps of:

c) receiving at said responder device a first wireless signal broadcast by an initiator device;

d) sending a second wireless signal in response to said first wireless signal when said responder device is in said discoverable mode, wherein said second wireless signal is to be received by said initiator device; and

e) disregarding said first wireless signal when said responder device is in said non-discoverable mode.

20. The responder device of Claim 19 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

5 f) receiving a third wireless signal from said initiator device, wherein said third wireless signal is a directed signal sent to said responder device in response to said second wireless signal.

10 21. The responder device of Claim 20 wherein said responder device is in a connectable mode at all times, wherein said responder device in said connectable mode automatically responds to directed signals.

22. The responder device of Claim 20 wherein said initiator device and said responder device are Bluetooth-enabled devices.

15 23. The responder device of Claim 22 wherein said first wireless signal is an inquiry message requesting an address for said responder device.

20 24. The responder device of Claim 23 wherein said second wireless signal comprises said address for said responder device.

25. The responder device of Claim 24 wherein said third wireless signal is a page message directed to said address and comprising a request for a name of said responder device.

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